(c) No, Sir. The classification made in the Census Report 2001 has been adopted by BSNL throughout the country for the purpose of charging telephone tariff.

Opening of new post offices in U.P.

f2248. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices and branch post offices proposed to be opened in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year, district-wise;

(b) the number of post offices opened in the urban and rural areas in the State during the last three years; and

(c) the necessary action taken by Government in the State for improvement of the postal services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Only one sub post office in Lucknow District has been found to be justified for opening so far in the current financial year.

(b) Year-wise details of post offices opened during the last 3 years, in urban and rural areas are given below:—

Year	Sub Post Offices		Branch Post Offices		Total
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	
2001-2002	1	1	—	38	40
2002-2003	1	—	—	18	19
2003-2004	1	—	—	20	21

(c) The focus of the Department for improvement of postal services is on modernizing and upgrading the physical network and on induction of technology. Some of the initiatives taken in this regard include setting up Computerized Customer Care Centres and modernizing and computerizing post offices, registration sorting centres and speed post centres. Facilities have also been provided for International Money Transfer,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

domestic money transfer and e-post. Citizen Charter Scheme is also being implemented in all head post offices in the circle to provide more responsive services.

Software units registered with STPI in Hyderabad

2249. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Wili the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of software units, registered with Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) as on this day in Hyderabad; and

(b) the details of their locations with their official addresses of their units and e-mail addresses of their units located in Hyderabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) 1084 units have been registered under Software Technology Park (STP) scheme at Hyderabad centre till date. The list of these units alongwith official addresses and e-mail addresses are available at Web-sites http://www.stpi.soft.net in pdf format.

Concession to senior citizens

2250. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. is offering some concession in rent in the bill of land line telephones owned by senior citizens, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the same concessions is not provided to senior citizens holding land line telephone connection of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. living in NCR town of Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ghaziabad, if so, the details and justification for this discrimination when both telephone companies **are** Government undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. MTNL, Delhi and Mumbai are providing rebate in